

Latin American Independence

Revolutions, Wars, and Independence

Adapted from Donnie Huckaby (<http://hthknights.com/apwh/apwh.htm>)

Background

- Indigenous peoples and civilizations
 - Maya, Aztec, Inca
- European Colonization, 1500s
 - Spain, Portugal, France
- American Revolution, 1776
- French Revolution and Enlightenment, 1789
- Napoleon's conquests within Europe, 1800s

French colonies: Revolution in Haiti

- Saint Domingue, now known as Haiti
- Western third of island of Hispanola in Caribbean Sea.
- Plantation slavery, sugar

Toussaint L'Ouverture

- Former slave, self-educated.
- Took leadership of a slave revolt that broke out in 1791.
- 100,000 slaves in revolt.
- In January 1802, French troops landed.
- Arrest L'Ouverture, send him to prison in France - dies 10 months later, April 1803.



Jean-Jacques Dessalines

- Toussaint's general, took up the fight.
- Jan 1, 1804 - declared an independent country.
- First black colony to free itself from European control.



Latin American social classes

- Peninsulares - men born in Spain
 - held highest offices
- Creoles - Spaniards born in Latin America
 - officers in army, but not in government
 - often resented power of the peninsulares
- Mestizos - mixed European and Indian
- Mulattos - mixed European and African
- Indians

European Background: Napoleon

- Napoleon invaded Spain in 1808.
- Removed Spain's King Ferdinand VII and made Joseph (Nap's brother) king of Spain.
- Creoles used it as a reason for revolution.
- 1810 rebellion across Latin America.
- 1814, Napoleon defeated and Ferdinand returned to power, but creoles continued their movement.



Simon Bolivar



- Wealthy Venezuelan creole.
- "The Liberator"



Simon Bolivar

- Born a Creole in Venezuela
- Influenced by Enlightenment thinkers through education and trips to Europe
- Hoped to unite all of South America into one nation
- Very capable general whose victories brought independence to Colombia, Venezuela, Peru, and Bolivia



Jose de San Martin

- Simple, modest man.
- Born in Argentina, spent time in Spain as military officer.
- San Martin led army to free Argentina, Peru
- Ecuador, 1822: San Martin met with Bolivar to decide how to remove remaining Spanish forces in Lima, Peru.

Gran Colombia, 1820-1830

- Bolivar's vision of a united South America.
- Present-day Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela and Panama.
- Short-lived due to dissension amongst various factions.
- Bolivar resigned in 1828.
- In 1830, Bolivar's Gran Colombia divided into Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela.



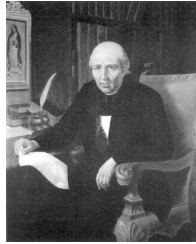
Mexico

- Indians and mestizos, not creoles, played the key role in independence movements.
- Two revolutionary leaders attempt to bring real change
- Creoles sided with Spain to avoid violence of lower-class rebellions (until 1820).



Father Miguel Hidalgo

- As a Creole, Father Miguel Hidalgo was in was part of a movement to gain independence
- Hidalgo was far more progress then the others, he believed in social equality and wanted to help the Indians



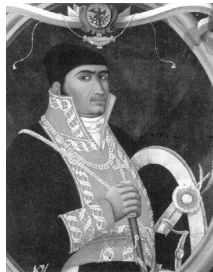
Father Miguel Hidalgo

- In 1810, he led a mob army of 600 Indians to Mexico City that swelled to over 60,000
- Outside of the city, Hidalgo declared Mexican independence, abolished slavery
- He disbanded mob before taking city, he was later arrested and executed by Spanish military in 1811



Father Jose Maria Morelos

- Took leadership after Hidalgo's death
- Hoped to create an independent republic, eliminate power of Spaniards, Creoles, and Church
- Evoked Mexican nationalism
- Caught in 1815 and executed



Mexican Independence, 1821

- 1820 revolution in Spain put a liberal government in power.
- Mexican creoles feared loss of influence, so they united against Spain.
- Agustin Iturbide declared himself emperor, but was overthrown.
- 1824: Establishment of the Mexican Republic.



Brazilian Independence

- In 1807, Napoleon marched on Iberian peninsula, forcing Portuguese royal family of King John VI to escape to Brazil, Portugal's largest colony.
- From 1807 to 1815, Brazil was center of Portuguese empire.

Brazil

- With defeat of Napoleon in 1815, Portugal wanted Brazil to become a colony again.
- By 1822, creoles demanding independence signed a petition asking Portugal's prince, Dom Pedro, to rule Brazil.
- On Sept 7, 1822, Dom Pedro agreed, and declared Brazil's independence



Brazil

- Emperor Pedro I, to emulate Napoleon and to unify various elements of Brazil.
- Pedro's political and personal problems led to a decline in his popularity.
- 1889, Brazilians overthrew Pedro's successor and declared their country a republic.



Period of Consolidation, 1825-1850

- Breakdown of original nations and groups:
 - Gran Colombia
 - an original union between Bolivia and Peru
 - United Provinces of Central America
- Instability of internal politics
 - Bolivia experienced 60 revolts and coups.
 - Venezuela experienced 52 revolts and coups

Period of Consolidation, 1825-1850

- Liberals - free trade, representative govt, federal government system
- Conservatives - protect church and upper classes
 - controlled most regimes between 1830 and 1870.
- Independence movements and new governments run by Creoles
- Spanish administrators had excluded Creoles from political leadership, so few leaders could actually run a government.

Achievements

- Expansion of education system, open new lands to settlement, abolish slavery.
- Stability in foreign affairs - map fixed after 1850
 - In 1820, Britain established Uruguay as a buffer between Argentina and Brazil
 - US provoked the only major changes
 - Mexican-American War, Cuba, Panama

Results of Latin American Independence Movements

- Political/Social:
 - Continued battles between liberals, conservatives and the military over how to best rule.
 - Tensions between articulate political forces and the separate masses.
- Economic:
 - Unable to free itself from dependence on Western-controlled economic patterns.
- Cultural/intelligent:
 - Distinct cultural entity
 - combination of Western styles and values plus its racial diversity, colonial past, and social structure of a semi-colonial economy.